

WEATHER FORECAST.

Fair and colder to-day; to-morrow probably snow or rain; westerly winds. Highest temperature yesterday, 57; lowest, 37. Detailed weather reports will be found on editorial page.

VOL. LXXXVI.—NO. 111.—DAILY.

NEW YORK, MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1921.

ENTRÉE AS SECOND CLASS MATTER, POST OFFICE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

PRICE TWO CENTS

THREE CENTS WITHIN 200 MILES. FOUR CENTS ELSEWHERE.

THE NEW YORK HERALD

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HUGHES APPEALS DIRECTLY TO BRIAND FOR NAVAL HARMONY; LINDENFELD REVEALS WALL ST. BOMB MAKER AND PLOT HEAD; MEYER REPORT KILLS ESTIMATE AND SINKING FUND BOARDS

WOULD VEST RIGHTS TO SPEND CITY CASH IN AN ELECTIVE BODY

Repeal of Mandatory Legislation Fixing Charges Is Demanded.

FINANCIAL DISASTER SEEN

First Report to Charter Revision Committee Opposed by Minority.

In its first report to the Charter Revision Committee, made public yesterday, the Meyer legislative investigating committee recommended the abolishment of the Board of Estimate and the Sinking Fund Commission and the establishment of a board of finance in lieu thereof.

The recommendation is the first fruit of four months of investigation of the city government, and is based upon the conclusion that separation of the appropriating power from the spending power is essential to save the city from "foreshadowed financial disaster."

The report also recommended that all mandatory legislation fixing charges upon the city for local services be repealed and that legislation of that character be restrained in the future by constitutional amendment.

It was indicated that further reports with other recommendations are to follow.

Although Mayor Hylan intimated last summer he would support a recommendation from the Meyer committee ending mandatory legislation, a minority report of the Democratic members of the committee yesterday showed they are prepared for war against the whole proposed program. It is certain the Hylan administration will fight any effort to disrupt the present arrangement whereby the Tammany Board of Estimate, composed as it is of department heads and those responsible for department heads, both appropriate and spend the city's money.

The Meyer committee's proposal is to leave in the offices comprising the Board of Estimate and the Sinking Fund Commission such spending powers as they now possess, but to place all appropriating power in the hands of the proposed board of finance, which would have nine members elected by the people and who would deal solely with the city's finances.

Nine Elective Members.

The Board of Finance would be composed of three members from Manhattan, three members from Brooklyn and one each from the other boroughs. The board would be elected in the 1923 election and three vacancies would occur every two years thereafter. The Meyer committee stated as an additional reason for that recommendation its belief that the voters of the city should have opportunity every two years to "speak directly and exclusively on the financial issue."

The Democratic members in the minority report, not only turned down that proposition, but countered with the proposal that in view of the Hylan victory at the polls last month the Meyer committee should do nothing at all about the city's finances until Mayor Hylan took a whirl at it.

The only official position in the Board of Estimate and Sinking Fund Commission which the committee proposed to abolish outright is President of the Board of Aldermen, providing instead the election of a presiding officer by the Aldermen themselves.

However, within two years the following officials whose four year terms begin January 1 would be short of their appropriating powers as members of the two boards to be abolished:

In the Board of Estimate—Mayor Hylan, Comptroller Charles L. Craig, Marvin Hubbard, President of the Board of Aldermen; Julius Miller, President of the Borough of Manhattan; Edward Blugmann, President of Brooklyn; Maurice E. Connelly, President of Queens; Henry Bruckner, President of the Bronx; Matthew J. Cahill, President of Richmond—all Democrats.

Presumably Mr. Hubbard would lose his place as President of the Board of Aldermen, even if the election were taken from the hands of the voters, as proposed, since the majority of the board is overwhelmingly Tammany.

Although Mayor Hylan is expected to fight the abolition of the Sinking Fund Commission, the Mayor's testimony before the Meyer committee last August indicates that its abolition would require for him a source of much better settlement. Senator Elton B. Brown, counsel of the committee, asked Mayor

BLACKSMITH ACCUSE IN WARSAW MESSAGE

Got His Pay in West Fortieth Street for Job That Killed Thirty-nine, Is Charge—Wife Acted as Spy Before Explosion, Says Cable.

WARSAW, Dec. 18 (Associated Press).—Silvester Cosgrove, the American Department of Justice agent, has sent a cable dispatch to Washington giving the name of a blacksmith who, Wolfe Lindenfeld, alias William Linde, alleges manufactured the bomb and engineered the details of the explosion in Wall street in September, 1920, and received the money for the job at 100 West Fortieth street, New York city.

The blacksmith came to Warsaw last summer and met Lindenfeld, according to Paul D. Altendorf, who trailed Lindenfeld before his arrest. Altendorf says Lindenfeld stated that the blacksmith accompanied him to Moscow last August, but the blacksmith and his wife returned to America several weeks ago.

The blacksmith's wife, says the statement, watched J. P. Morgan's movements from an adjacent window some time prior to the explosion.

The number given by Cosgrove, 100 West Fortieth street, is the International Hotel, operated by Michael Pappas and catering exclusively to Greeks. It was said at the hotel last night that Pappas took over the ground floor of the building about fifteen months ago, starting a restaurant. Three months later he acquired the upper floors and opened the hotel. Before Pappas took it over it was said, the property was vacant.

The name of Lindenfeld, or any of his aliases, does not appear on the register so far as the register could be seen last night. The books covering the first two or three months of the hotel's operation were not available. The hotel was started about the time of the explosion, but it was said there last night that Pappas did not know whether he started it before or after.

Nothing was known at the hotel of Lindenfeld and it was said that so far as officials of the place know he has never been a guest there.

WARSAW TIP SAVED WALL ST. BOMBERS

Fearful Confession Gave the Guilty Chance to Escape.

William J. Burns, chief of the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, is afraid that the publicity given to Wolfe Lindenfeld's statement may defeat the Government's purpose of making a quick roundup of the persons responsible for the Wall street explosion.

Contrary to expectations the text of Lindenfeld's statement (Mr. Burns insists that it cannot be considered in the light of a confession) was not in Mr. Burns's hands yesterday. He said that there had been some delay in transmission to Washington from Warsaw, where Lindenfeld made his deposition. According to schedule should be decided by the State Department this morning. A digest is to be made public, according to Mr. Burns.

More about Lindenfeld, his ways and means, was given at Mr. Burns's home yesterday. It now appears that this extraordinary man devoted much of his time, according to Mr. Burns, to double crossing folk. He was employed by the Burns Detective Agency to go to Warsaw hunting radicals because of his knowledge of the inception of the bomb outrage and because of his intimacy with radicals.

His radical friends, it seems, believed that he was alienating himself with Burns that he might keep them apprised of the movements of the detectives. Eventually, said Mr. Burns, it became apparent that Lindenfeld decided to double cross the detective agency and to keep the American officials notified of his progress in Europe.

"But just how they got this statement out of him," said the chief, "is a dark mystery to me. More disconcerting is how it got into the hands of the news agency that sent it to America. My guess is, and it is only a guess, that radicals in Warsaw, being in on the secret, tipped it off to a news agency that the very people we want to grab might be warned."

Mr. Burns explained that Lindenfeld came to him before the Wall street explosion and told him that such a blowup was to take place. Just where it was to happen Lindenfeld did not know. Moreover, Lindenfeld did not know precisely when.

"I'm explaining this," said Mr. Burns, "to dissipate a few erroneous impressions from the press. Some people think that there are people who call Lindenfeld—or Linde, as we knew him—a braggart and a lover of cheap publicity. I assure you he was far from that."

"He didn't know where or when the explosion was to take place. We did a bit of thinking and decided that as it was to be nothing more or less than a demonstration of what they call mass action—a bit of terrorism, in other words—it would take place in the financial district. There was no spy in an opposite window watching J. P. Morgan and learning the hours he entered and left his office so that the bomb might explode at a time when he would be near by on the street. That's all both."

"Lindenfeld told that a number of places were considered for the demonstration—the explosion. You must understand that Lindenfeld had no part in the plot. He merely knew details of it. We knew he knew and we wanted to get from him the very statement he has now made in Warsaw. We tried various means. The \$50,000 reward for information was more or less a bait cast before him and others, too, for that matter. But he failed to get him. "Martens, who called himself the Soviet Ambassador and purchasing agent

BANDITS GET \$40,000 AT CAPITOL THEATER AND ESCAPE IN TAXI

Three Armed Men Lock Employees in Storeroom and Take Contents of Safe.

FLEE BY FIRE ESCAPE

Trio Last Seen Driving Toward Ninth Avenue With the Cash in Bag.

WALL ST. IS GUARDED AFTER NEW THREAT

Broker Is Advised to Keep Away To-day in Bomb Note Sent to Him.

POLICE SUSPECT A HOAX

Burns Sees Trick in Warsaw Reports Tipping Culprits to Escape.

A squad of patrolmen from Old Slip station commanded by two sergeants took up strategic positions within and without the Stock Exchange last night. The bomb squad from Police Headquarters, led by Detective Sergeant Gogan, were posted in advantageous doorways and corners in the immediate vicinity of Broad and Wall streets. Private detectives and a few operatives from the Department of Justice augmented this guard force.

This guard will be maintained all of to-day and, possibly, all of to-night, because Charles T. Morgan, a broker, 25 Broad street, has turned over to the police a note he has received to the effect that the Stock Exchange and "everything within five blocks" is to be blown up to-day. The police say they are skeptical. Sergeant Gogan says that it is only a matter of precaution, but that the police would rather not take chances of being wrong.

William J. Burns, Chief of the Bureau of Investigation, of the Department of Justice, said last night that he believes the alarm a false one, but that the officials cannot afford to ignore a warning, no matter how little there may be to give it substance.

The police were posted last night by Inspector Coughlin. From their positions they were constantly in command of the offices of J. P. Morgan & Co., the Sub-Treasury and the United States Assay office, between which the bomb was exploded. The explosion, which occurred at 10:30 o'clock, was heard by the police. The explosion was heard by the police. The explosion was heard by the police.

The three men were lined up with their faces against the wall and two of the bandits went through their pockets. The personal money and jewelry were not touched, but from Faulkner's pockets they took some keys.

The bandits tried the keys in the safe, which stood in a corner, and one of them opened it. They took the money sacks from the safe and jammed them in a bag belonging to the theater, and then turned to their four captives. Faulkner, Miss Courtwright and the plenary meetings of the Supreme Council, which will meet within the next few weeks, since the allied policy must be made known to Germany before January 15. The immediate subjects of discussion as regards reparations are the August financial agreement between France and England and the Versailles agreement.

Mr. Lloyd George's first object will be to obtain a clear understanding as to how far France is prepared to go to meet the financial problems involved. When Louis Loucheur, French Minister of the Liberated Regions, visited Mr. Lloyd George last week there resulted an impression of great good will, and the problem this week will be to translate this good will into terms of solid marks.

Squaring of Interests.

The French are expected to use Great Britain to waive a portion of her 22 per cent. of the reparations payments, but this will bring insistence for a revision of the Versailles agreement. Since the payments in material, etc., under the Versailles plan are likely to constitute the bulk of German reparations for the next few years, France's allies think that it is only fair that an arrangement should be made to square their interests on the basis of the Spa percentage.

Mr. Lloyd George is anxious to hear Premier Briand's proposals in this regard, but at the same time he is known to be eager to eliminate comparatively small bargaining and to tackle the fundamental problem that faces Europe. Somewhat it is stated that he is willing to go far toward reducing Germany's debt and toward allowing France the full measure of benefits possible irrespective of the incidental inequality in percentages, but only on condition that France be prepared to help in the common effort to restore

RAIN SAVES TOWN ON FIRE

\$50,000 Damage Done by Blaze in Westfield, Mass.

WESTFIELD, MASS., Dec. 18.—Fire early to-day swept Columbia Hall block here, causing damage estimated at \$50,000. Only a driving downpour of rain prevented numerous other fires, started by embers blown from the burning building, from gaining headway.

The principal loss was sustained by Paley Brothers, furniture dealers, who occupied the second floor. One fireman, Fred Conby, was injured by a falling brick.

FUTURE OF ENTENTE WILL BE UNDER TEST OF PREMIERS TO-DAY

Lloyd George to Insist on British Naval Supremacy in Europe.

HARVEY VISITS BRIAND

Britain Wants to Check French Military Expenses—Representations the Issue.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—Monday (Associated Press).—George Harvey, the American Ambassador, at a late hour last night visited Premier Briand at the Hotel where M. Briand is stopping in London, says the Times this morning. The newspaper adds that the Ambassador and the Premier were together for some time.

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The French naval demands as presented at the Washington conference will be one of the earliest points to be taken up in the discussions between Premier Briand and Mr. Lloyd George at their conference which opens here at 11 o'clock to-morrow morning, because, quite aside from world limitation of armaments, this subject bears indirectly on the reparations question.

The French Government is prepared seriously to consider a reduction of the allied forces on the Rhine in order that more money will be available for reparations, if Great Britain offers an absolute guaranty in case of future German aggression. This Great Britain will be reluctant to give unless, as Mr. Lloyd George will point out, France lines up with the Washington spirit and recognizes British naval supremacy in European waters sufficiently to waive provocative naval building.

Would Not Need Large Navy.

The British hold that any such guaranty goes further than the reparations question and will stress the point that if such a guaranty is given France will not need an extensive navy and therefore need not press her demands at Washington.

Mr. Lloyd George on this side will carry on Mr. Balfour's work in America for the success of the naval agreement.

The British would welcome a partial withdrawal of troops from the Rhine, but when the guaranty to France is mentioned it is pointed out in official circles that the French naval demands are a serious annoyance. Both officials and the press regard any naval extension on the part of France as a menace to Great Britain, since aside from the British navy there is nothing in European waters that France needs to fear.

It is therefore hoped in Whitehall that the conversations of the Premier will result in important modifications of the French demands at Washington, and it is believed that Mr. Balfour has been informed to await instructions.

Loucheur With Briand.

Premier Briand arrived here this evening with Louis Loucheur, Philippe Berthelot, permanent secretary at the Foreign Office; Count St. Aulaire, French Ambassador in London, and a number of other officials. He expects to remain until Friday.

The conversation between the Premier and Mr. Lloyd George will be of the usual informal nature, such as those which precede the plenary meetings of the Supreme Council, which will meet within the next few weeks, since the allied policy must be made known to Germany before January 15. The immediate subjects of discussion as regards reparations are the August financial agreement between France and England and the Versailles agreement.

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'STRAFE AMERICA' LEAFLETS SEIZED BY POLICE IN TOKIO

TOKIO, Dec. 18 (Associated Press).—A mass meeting held to-day under the auspices of the Anti-American Young Men's League adopted resolutions opposing the decisions arrived at by the Washington conference. There were many speeches in denunciation of the agreements reached.

A proposed demonstration before the American Embassy was prevented by the police, who seized numerous leaflets containing the words of a song, "Strafe America," which it was proposed to distribute.

The retention by the United States under the agreement on naval limitation (permitting Japan to retain the Mutsu) of the battleships Colorado, Washington and Maryland, has called forth violent protestations on the part of several of the vernacular newspapers.

The Asahi, under the caption of "The Selfish Washington Conference," attacks the Japanese delegates for their failure to maintain the "70" (10-10-7) ratio. It also scores the Powers for their alleged insincere attitude.

The Yozawa Choho expresses the belief that the acceptance of the naval ratio has been to the detriment of Japan.

The Kokumin Shinbun declares that the conference has prepared for war instead of peace.

The Jiji Shimpō expresses the fear that the retention by Japan of the battleship Mutsu will prove a difficult problem. It hopes, however, that the problem will be overcome without handicapping the conference.

SOUTH IRELAND TEST GAVE 70 FOR TREATY

Ratification by Decisive Majority Seen if Ballot Were Taken To-day.

DELAY LIKELY IN VOTE

Followers of De Valera by Speeches May Put Off Action Several Days.

DUBLIN, Dec. 18.—(Associated Press).—The result of the referendum on the treaty was 70 to 30 in favor of the treaty. The result of the referendum was 70 to 30 in favor of the treaty. The result of the referendum was 70 to 30 in favor of the treaty.

The preponderant sentiment is that Arthur Griffith, who will move the ratification, and Collins who will second it, will swing two-thirds of the vote for ratification.

A vote may not be reached until Tuesday or even later because many speeches are slated, especially by De Valera's followers, and the ratification leaders who have refrained from speeches at the secret sessions will review the case at length. To-night the leaders of each camp conferred with their followers. De Valera received his at the Mansion House. They numbered about thirty, which may be an index to his strength.

De Valera looked pale and worn and showed strikingly the effects of the strain he is under, while Michael Collins seemed as buoyant as ever. He hoped the vote might be taken to-morrow, but admitted it might be strung out for some days.

It is taken for granted here that all attempts to reconcile the factions have failed and with no chance of bringing them together they now must stand or fall with the vote.

DUBLIN, Dec. 18 (Associated Press).—When the secret session of the Dail Eireann terminated close to midnight Saturday those outside heard a burst of applause inside the council chamber. Desmond Fitzgerald, Sinn Fein Minister of Propaganda, was asked if the applause meant that the treaty was to be ratified. He said:

"It only means that everybody was glad to be through with the private sessions."

A leading member from Cork City, when asked by the Associated Press whether the public session of the Dail to-morrow would be likely to end the situation, declared:

"No. It is more likely to last over Christmas."

One persistent report current is that an agreement has been reached between the contending sections of the Parliament. This is to the effect that Richard Mulcahy, chief of staff of the Irish Republican army, will move ratification of the treaty, and that this will be seconded by Commandant John Joseph McKeown, who recently was released from prison, where he was under sentence of death imposed by a British court martial. The leaders on each side, it is declared, will follow, explaining the nature of the compromise.

This could not be corroborated from inquiries among the members of the Dail Eireann this evening, but it perhaps is not unlikely that a meeting of the Dail chiefs of both sections was held to-night in Mansion House.

CRAIG INJECTS NEW SNAG IN IRISH PEACE

Objects to Appointing Member on Boundary Board.

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DELAY STRATEGIC

France's Attitude Indicates No Willingness to Modify the Sea Terms.

REJECTION IS FORECAST

No Counter Proposal Presented, but 5-5-3-2-2 Ratio Considered Best.

ENTIRE PROGRAM HELD UP

French Stand Regarded as More Disingenuous Than Genuine.

By LOUIS SEIBOLD.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (Associated Press).—Secretary Hughes, as chairman of the armament conference, has communicated directly with Premier Briand of France regarding the situation which has developed as a result of the stand of the French delegation upon the question of naval ratios.

Mr. Hughes is understood to have called the attention of M. Briand to the entirely unexpected nature of the French proposal and to its failure to harmonize with the basic principles upon which the limitation of naval armaments plan was drawn.

There is no sign that the French Government will speedily indicate its willingness to modify the terms presented by M. Sarraut to the sea armaments committee of fifteen on Friday. Until the French decision on this point is communicated by the Paris Government the whole naval structure based on the formula proposed by the American Government will be held up and the work of completing the sea armaments program delayed.

The American delegates would not venture a prophecy this afternoon as to the probable duration of the deadlock in conference undertakings generally caused by the request of the French.

No Counter Proposal Made.

The move made by M. Sarraut was so totally unexpected that no counter-proposal has been presented to the French delegates. It is not improbable that one will be forthcoming, however, at the session of the committee of fifteen to-morrow and there does not appear to be the slightest room for doubt that it will reflect the French figures calling for equal privileges granted Japan under the 5-5-3 plan signed by the delegates from that country, the United States and Great Britain.

There is apparently no thought among the delegates from any of the countries represented with the exception of Belgium of approving the French request. It is considered as widely at variance with France's legitimate necessities in the way of capital sea armaments. It is further regarded as being rather more disingenuous than genuine.

If the opinion of experts is to be accepted the best France and probably Italy can obtain in the matter of capital armaments is on the basis of a maximum two, so that the general agreement to be signed by the five leading sea Powers will be regulated on the basis of 5-5-3-2-2.

More Than Italy Desires.

Even these figures contemplate naval establishments for France and Italy that are deemed far more than actually justified. It is certainly more than Italy, which feels that she must match France in the matter of sea armaments for reasons of expediency, really desires.

The statement of M. Sarraut expressing surprise that the request made by his Government for capital naval privileges has caused consternation among delegates of other countries hopeful of reaching definite conclusions during the coming week is not accepted at its face value.

The chief reason for this is that M. Briand informed the Hughes formula in his statement on the second day of the conference. Another reason is that the French delegates did not make any move to bring forward their surprising proposal in the intervening three weeks, but waited until the agreement on the part of the United States, Great Britain and Japan had been consummated.

For these reasons the delegates from other countries look to M. Lou-

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